### Case 2:06-cv-05307-AB Document 1 Filed 12/04/06 Page 1 of 12 CIVIL COVER SHEET

®JS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

APPENDIX H

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

#### I. (a) PLAINTIFF PETER DEMAIO

- (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Montgomery (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)
- (c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Theodore E. Lorenz, Esq. and Cary L. Flitter, Esq. Lundy, Flitter, Beldecos & Berger, P.C., 450 N. Narberth Avenue, Narberth, PA 19072, (610) 822-0770

DEFENDANT DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES. INC. and TRANS UNION, LLC and EQUIFAX INFORMATION SERVICES, LLC and EXPERIAN INFORMATION SOLUTIONS, INC.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Unknown (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

> NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.

II. B	ASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in On	e Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff					
,				(For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defend				nt)	
	U.S. Government	☑ 3 Federal Question		PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF	
	Plaintiff	(U.S. Government N	ot a Party)	Citizen of This State	□ □ □ Incorp	porated or Princip	pal Place 🔲 4	<b>4</b>	
						siness In This Stat	te		
<b>2</b>	U.S. Government	4 Diversity		Citizen of Another State	□2 □ 2 Innomorated		sinal Dlaga	5	
	Defendant	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)			Incorporated and Princi		•		
	_ ,	(11111111111111111111111111111111111111	V. 1 43.123 (11 110.11 111.)						
				Citizen or Subject of a	3 3 Foreig	gn Nation	□ 6	□ 6	
IV N	ATURE OF SHIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only	<u>l</u>	Foreign Country					
*****	CONTRACT		RÍS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPT	rv I	OTHER STATUTI	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
□ 110	Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY		422 Appeal 28 U	100 150			
120			362 Personal Injury	620 Other Food & Drug	423 Withdrawal	Į Lond	400 State Reapportionn 410 Antitrust	ient	
	☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 315 Airplane Pro		Med. Malpractice	625 Drug Related Seizure		1			
			365 Personal Injury -	of Property 21 USC 881			☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce		
	Recovery of Overnayment		Product Liability	☐ 630 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RI		460 Deportation		
	Enforcement of Judgment	Slander 368 Asbestos Personal		G 640 R.R. & Truck	☐ 820 Copyrights		470 Racketeer Influenced and		
	Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers' Injury Product		☐ 650 Airline Regs.	830 Patent	l l	Corrupt Organizations		
I 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans		Liability Liability  ☐ 340 Marine PERSONAL PROPERTY		660 Occupational	☐ 840 Trademark		■ 480 Consumer Credit		
	xcl. Veterans)	345 Marine Product 370 Other Fraud		Safety/Health  696 Other			☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV ☐ 810 Selective Service		
	Recovery of Overpayment		371 Truth in Lending	LABOR	SOCIAL SECU	***************************************	850 Securities/Commod	itian/	
	Veteran's Benefits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle	380 Other Personal	710 Fair Labor Standards	861 HIA (1395ff		Exchange	111103/	
	Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle Property Damage		Act	862 Black Lung		☐ 875 Customer Challenge		
190 Other Contract		Product Liability 385 Property Damage		720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	863 DIWC/DIW		12 USC 3410		
	Contract Product Liability	☐ 360 Other Personal Product Liability		☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting			890 Other Statutory Act	ions	
	Franchise REAL PROPERTY	Injury CIVIL RIGHTS	DDISONED DECYMANA	& Disclosure Act	☐ 865 RSI (405(g))		891 Agricultural Acts		
	Land Condemnation	441 Voting	PRISONER PETITIONS 510 Motions to Vacate	740 Railway Labor Act 790 Other Labor Litigation	FEDERAL TAX  870 Taxes (U.S.	Diametiff	892 Economic Stabiliza 893 Environmental Mat	tion Act	
220 Foreclosure 442 Employment		Sentence	791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	or Defendant)		☐ 894 Energy Allocation Act			
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment		443 Housing/	Habeas Corpus:	Security Act			895 Freedom of Informa		
240 Torts to Land		Accommodations	□530 General		26 USC 7609 Act			etton.	
245 Tort Product Liability		444 Welfare 535 Death Penalty					900Appeal of Fee Deter	mination	
290 All Other Real Property		445 Amer. w/Disabilities - 540 Mandamus & Other Employment 550 Civil Rights					Under Equal Access		
		Employment	•				to Justice		
		446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	555 Prison Condition				950 Constitutionality of		
		Other			1		State Statutes		
		440 Other Civil Rights		1			***************************************		
v. or	IGIN (Pla	ice an "X" in One Box Only)		Transferre	d from	Ap	peal to District		
Ø١			nanded from 4 Re	einstated or 5 another d	listrict    6 Multid		dge from Magistrate		
	Proceeding	State Court App	ellate Court Re	opened (specify)	Litigatio	on Juc	dgment		
cherosopolishimisko	Southern the second section of Southern Conference to the second the second second second second second second	City the LLC Civil Courte	and and the contract of the	g (Do not cite jurisdictional :			^/NOCCY/Cartillocar(Name/Name/CD)	ezzar (1862) ka ariar ez ez ez ez	
VI CA	USE OF ACTION	15 U.S.C. § 1681	unuci winch you are min	g (150 not ene jurisoienonai :	statutes uniess diver	rsity):			
VI. UM	TOSE OF ACTION	Brief description of cause:							
		brici description of cause.							
VII. R	EQUESTED IN	☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A	CLASS ACTION	DEMAND S	CHECK YES only	if demanded in	complaint		
$\boldsymbol{c}$	OMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P. 23			JURY DEMAND:				
************			en all est to the state of the	et santiture en entre entitier damente dellande metalle het med della gentralistic et alle egent.	manised specialises electrical and americal destinated frequencial purifyes argue			annication of a	
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY (See instructions): JUDGE		and the same of the same		A Ares Mare & 100 12 Ann 100 100					
				DOCKET NUMBER					
DATE		- Marie Carlotte Control of the Carlotte Control of th	SIGNATURE OF ATTOR	INEY OF RECORD					
	a hilke	and the same of th	1 Jan 1						
· ·	4/4/06		// K 1/2/						
FOR OF	FICE UŠE ONLY		/ //						
RECE	IDT# AND	IOI NIT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE		MAG HIDGE			
RECE	iri# AlV	IOUNT	AFFL HING IFF	TODGE		MAG. JUDGE			

### 

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

APPENDIX F

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION assignment to appropriate calendar.	FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of
Address of Plaintiff: 373 Vista Drive, Phoenixville, PA 19460	
Address of Defendant: Discover 248 Champman Rd., Newark, DE 19702; Tran	ns Union 2704 Commerce Drive., Harrisburg, PA 17110; Equifax 2704
Commerce Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17110 and Experian 1515 Market St., Suite 1210	J. Philadelphia, PA 19102
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: 373 Vista Drive, Phoenixville, PA 194	(Use Reverse Side For Additional Space)
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent co. (Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.C	reporation and any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock?  Civ.P. 7.1(a) Yes No 🖾
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes ☐ No ☑
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:	
Case Number: Judge	Date Terminated:
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following quest	itions:
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending	or within one year previously terminated action in this court?  Yes □ No 【【
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction in this court?	
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit of	or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously
terminated action in this court?	Yes No No
(Chack annua	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:  1.
Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and cost  Relief other than monetary damages is sought	the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil is;
	1725-
DATE: 12/4/24 Afterney-ay-Law	Attorney I.D.
	only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now as noted above.  DATE: /2/4/04  Attorney at-Law	pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except  67795  Attorney I.D.

APPENDIX I

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

#### CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

PETER DEMAIO

CIVIL ACTION

V.

DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., TRANS UNION LLC, EQUIFAX : NO. INFORMATION SERVICES, LLC AND **EXPERIAN INFORMATION SOLUTIONS:** 

INC.

(4)

In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a case management track designation form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.

#### SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:

(a)	labeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. §2241 through §2255.			)	
(b)	Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits				
(c)	Arbitration - Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 5				
(d)	Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos.	(		)	
(e)	Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases)				
(f)	Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks.	(	X	)	
/2/4/ Date	Attorney at Law PLAINTIFF Attorney for				
610-66 <b>Telepl</b>					

clf\files\demaio-cra's\pleadings\complaint

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

PETER DEMAIO 373 Vista Drive Phoenixville, PA 19460

NO.

vs.

DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. 248 Champman Road Newark, DE 19702

Plaintiff

And

TRANS UNION LLC, c/o The Prentice-Hall Corporation System I 2704 Commerce Drive Harrisburg, PA 17110

And

EQUIFAX INFORMATION SERVICES, LLC c/o Corporation Service Company 2704 Commerce Drive Harrisburg, PA 17110

And

EXPERIAN INFORMATION SOLUTIONS, INC. c/o CT Corporation System 1515 Market Street, Suite 1210 Philadelphia, PA 19102

Defendants

#### **COMPLAINT**

### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

1. This is an action for damages brought by a consumer pursuant to The Fair Credit Reporting Act ("FCRA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.

- The FCRA requires creditors to provide accurate information to credit reporting agencies and to conduct a proper investigation of disputed information. 15 U.S.C. §1681s-2.
- 3. The FCRA also requires credit reporting agencies to report accurate information and to conduct a proper reinvestigation of disputed information. 15 U.S.C. §1681e(b) and §1681i(a).

### II. <u>JURISDICTION</u>

4. Jurisdiction arises under 15 U.S.C. §1681p, and 28 U.S.C. §1337.

#### III. PARTIES

- Plaintiff is Peter DeMaio. He is a consumer who resides in Phoenixville,
   Pennsylvania at the address captioned.
- 6. Defendant, Discover Financial Services, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with a mailing address as captioned (hereinafter referred to as "Discover").
- 7. Discover regularly engages in business in Pennsylvania and in this district.
- 8. Discover is a furnisher of information as contemplated in the FCRA, §1681s-2(b).
- 9. Discover regularly and in the ordinary course of business furnishes information to one or more consumer reporting agencies about credit transactions or experiences with consumer(s).
- 10. Trans Union LLC ("Trans Union") is a foreign corporation which regularly does business in Pennsylvania and has a principal place of business in this district.
- 11. Equifax Information Services, LLC ("Equifax") is a foreign corporation which regularly does business in Pennsylvania and has a service address as captioned.

- 12. Experian Information Solutions, Inc. ("Experian") is a foreign corporation which regularly does business in Pennsylvania and has a service address as captioned.
- 13. Trans Union, Equifax, and Experian are each a "consumer reporting agency" as defined in 15 U.S.C. §1681(f).
- 14. Trans Union, Equifax and Experian are collectively referred to as the "Credit Bureaus".
- 15. Each of the Credit Bureaus regularly engages in the business of assembling, evaluating, and disbursing information concerning consumers for the purpose of furnishing consumer reports, as defined in 15 U.S.C. §1681(d), to third parties.
- 16. Each of the Credit Bureaus disburses or provides such consumer reports to third parties, including Discover, under contract for monetary compensation.

#### IV. STATEMENT OF CLAIM

- In late 2004, plaintiff began the process of applying to become a State Farm Insurance Agent in order to operate his own State Farm Insurance Agency (hereinafter "Agency").
- 18. Plaintiff took and passed State Farm's screening process.
- 19. Plaintiff became a candidate for an Agency, enabling him to be enrolled in State Farm's agency training program as an agency intern.
- 20. State Farm pays an intern based on his prior year's income and continues to match that pay, as necessary, to the completion of the internship.
- 21. Plaintiff planned on completing the training program by early September 2005 and opening an Agency in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania.

- 22. Plaintiff's father has operated a State Farm Agency in Narberth, Pennsylvania for over for 30 years.
- 23. Plaintiff had planned to capitalize on the good will established by his father in the abutting community to start up and develop his business in the Bala Cynwyd area.
- 24. Plaintiff also planned to share certain costs of business with his father, such as advertising, since the two agencies would be geographically close to one another.
- 25. Plaintiff's plans were derailed on January 27, 2005, when he was removed as an Agency candidate.
- While attending an agency career seminar, a State Farm representative advised plaintiff that because of an unacceptable level of negative credit reporting, he was being removed from the agency program.
- 27. A State Farm agent candidate can only have a certain amount of adverse credit history before being dropped from the program.
- 28. Defendant Discover reported to the Credit Bureaus that plaintiff was late in making certain payments. Discover's reporting was false and inaccurate, and significantly contributed to the unacceptable level of negative credit reporting appearing on plaintiff's credit report.
- 29. In late January 2005, plaintiff wrote to the Credit Bureaus disputing Discover's false and inaccurate reporting, requesting a reinvestigation, and requesting that the inaccurate reporting be deleted.
- 30. Plaintiff wrote to Discover advising that it incorrectly reported several payments as late and requesting that it correct its reporting to the Credit Bureaus.

- 31. On March 7, 2005, plaintiff wrote again to each of the Credit Bureaus disputing Discover's reporting and asking that it be reinvestigated and corrected.
- Plaintiff, either directly or through his counsel, contacted Discover several more times throughout the Spring 2005 to dispute the inaccurate reporting and requesting that it be corrected.
- 33. Discover, instead of correcting the inaccurate reporting, re-verified it.
- 34. As of June 13, 2005, plaintiff was still being reported as a late pay on the Discover account.
- 35. It was not until the end of July 2005, that each of the Credit Bureaus corrected the previously false and inaccurate credit reporting.
- 36. It was not until late August 2005 that Discover finally notified plaintiff that it had requested the credit bureaus to delete the negative credit reporting.
- 37. At all times relevant hereto, Discover knew or should have known that it was reporting false and derogatory information about plaintiff.
- 38. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681s-2(b), a furnisher of information has a duty upon notice of dispute to conduct an investigation with respect to the disputed information and report the results of the investigation to the consumer reporting agency. The investigation must be done reasonably and adequately.
- 39. Discover failed to conduct a reasonable and adequate investigation.
- 40. Under the FCRA, the Credit Bureaus are required to report accurate information and to conduct a proper investigation of disputed information. 15 U.S.C. §1681e(b) and §1681i(a).

- 41. Each of the Credit Bureaus failed to conduct a reasonable and adequate investigation into plaintiff's disputed credit reporting and continued to report false and inaccurate information to any potential employer or credit grantor who accessed plaintiff's credit report.
- 42. The Credit Bureaus simply parroted the information provided by Discover back to the third parties through their credit reporting databases.
- 43. As a result of each defendant's willful, wanton, reckless, and/or negligent action, plaintiff has been damaged.
- 44. As a result of the false and derogatory information reported by defendants, plaintiff was delayed entering and completing State Farm's agency training program at substantial loss of income.
- 45. Plaintiff lost the benefit of opening an agency in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylavnia to take advantage of his father's good will and to share business expenses.
- 46. Plaintiff lost income and was required to relocate to Arizona to maintain his existing job while working to correct the false and inaccurate credit reporting by defendants.
- 47. Plaintiff has suffered mental and emotional distress, worry, humiliation, and embarrassment as a result of defendants' actions.
- 48. Plaintiff has suffered pecuniary loss, been denied credit, and expended significant time and effort trying to address his credit report.

## COUNT I - FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT (V. DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.)

49. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained above as if the same were here set forth at length.

- Discover has violated the Fair Credit Reporting Act by willfully and/or negligently failing to comply with the requirements imposed under 15 U.S.C. §1681s-2(b), including the failure to fully and properly investigate plaintiff's dispute and by failing to correctly report results of an accurate investigation to each of the Credit Bureaus.
- 51. Discover has violated the Fair Credit Reporting Act by willfully and/or negligently reporting false credit information about plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Peter DeMaio demands judgment against defendant Discover Financial Services, Inc. for:

- (a) Actual and compensatory Damages;
- (b) Punitive damages;
- (c) Attorney's fees and costs; and
- (d) Such other and further relief as the Court shall deem just and proper.

### COUNT II - FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT (V. TRANS UNION)

- 52. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained above as if the same were here set forth at length.
- 53. In the entire course of its action, Trans Union willfully and/or negligently violated the provisions of the FCRA in the following respects:
  - (a) by willfully and/or negligently failing, in the preparation of the consumer reports concerning plaintiff, to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of the information in the reports.
  - (b) by willfully and/or negligently failing to comport with FCRA section 1681i.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff, Peter DeMaio demands judgment against defendant Trans
Union for:

- (a) Actual and compensatory Damages;
- (b) Punitive damages;
- (c) Attorney's fees and costs; and
- (d) Such other and further relief as the Court shall deem just and proper.

### COUNT III - FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT (V. EQUIFAX)

- 54. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained above as if the same were here set forth at length.
- 55. In the entire course of its action, Equifax willfully and/or negligently violated the provisions of the FCRA in the following respects:
  - (a) by willfully and/or negligently failing, in the preparation of the consumer reports concerning plaintiff, to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of the information in the reports.
  - (b) by willfully and/or negligently failing to comport with FCRA section 1681i.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff, Peter DeMaio demands judgment against defendant Equifax for:

- (a) Actual and compensatory Damages;
- (b) Punitive damages;
- (c) Attorney's fees and costs; and
- (d) Such other and further relief as the Court shall deem just and proper

### COUNT IV - FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT (V. EXPERIAN)

- 56. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained above as if the same were here set forth at length.
- 57. In the entire course of its action, Experian willfully and/or negligently violated the provisions of the FCRA in the following respects:
  - (a) willfully and/or negligently failing, in the preparation of the consumer reports concerning plaintiff, to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of the information in the reports.
- (b) willfully and/or negligently failing to comport with FCRA section 1681i.
  WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Peter DeMaio demands judgment against defendant Experian
  for:
  - (a) Actual and compensatory Damages;
  - (b) Punitive damages;
  - (c) Attorney's fees and costs; and
  - (d) Such other and further relief as the Court shall deem just and proper

#### V. <u>DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL</u>

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury as to all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted:

Date: 12/04/06

/s/ Cary Flitter (CLF 5997)
CARY L. FLITTER
THEODORE E. LORENZ
Attorneys for Plaintiff
LUNDY, FLITTER,
BELDECOS & BERGER, P.C.
450 N. Narberth Avenue
Narberth, PA 19072
(610) 822-0781